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(LOS ANGELES) -- THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR HAS CRITICIZED WHAT HE TERMED "A MASSIVE ATTACK" TO MAKE THE AGENCY "APPEAR IMMORAL, SHADY AND UNAMERICAN." LIEUTENANT-GENERAL VERNON WALTERS SAID IN LOS ANGELES YESTERDAY THAT THE C-I-A "CANNOT OPERATE WITH ALL OF OUR SECRETS BEING TURNED OUT FOR PUBLIC VIEW." HE SPOKE BEFORE THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

WALTERS SAID: "WE CANNOT RESIST THE ADVANCE OF COMMUNISM IF WE ARE TIED HAND AND FOOT AND OUR POCKETS ARE TURNED INSIDE OUT AND CONTENTS EXPOSED FOR EVERY FOREIGNER TO LOOK AT."

THE GENERAL'S SPEECH, IN WHICH HE DEFENDED THE CONTROVERSIAL C-I-A DRUG EXPERIMENTS OF THE 1950S, WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY THE THOUSANDS OF DELEGATES TO THE LOS ANGELES V-F-W MEETING.

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HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Thursday, August 21, 1975

Deputy Director Defends CIA

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Los Angeles — Lt. Gen. Vernon A. Walters, deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), decided what he termed "a massive attack" against the CIA, "an effort to make it appear immoral, shady and un-American."

Addressing the National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) meeting here Wednesday Walters declared:

"We cannot resist the advance of communism if we are tied hand and foot and our pockets are turned inside out and contents exposed for every foreigner to look at. We cannot operate with all of our secrets being turned out for public view."

In an apparent reference to recent and ongoing investigations of the intelligence agencies, the general said, "So here we are, rummaging through the garbage pails of the history of events of the 1950s and '60s."

"I just hope that equal time will be given to the late '70s and early '80s, because that's when your freedom and mine is going to be decided."

"The real issue before the American people today is not the truth or the falsehood of some of these allegations, some of them reaching back a quarter of a century," Walters said.

"The real issue before the American people today is this: Is the United States as a free and democratic nation going to have eyes to see and ears to hear, or

are we going to stumble into the future, blind and deaf, until the day we have to choose between abject humiliation and nuclear blackmail?"

The central thrust of Walters' speech was that while the CIA has had "some bad apples" in its 27-year history, for the most part it has done a good job, and an essential job, of helping freedom survive.

As for the drug experiments, the general said, "you hear all this outrage. Well, I think President Ford spoke for all of us when he described this tragic situation when this man died, committed suicide after being experimented on with these drugs."

"But I think in all fairness we should go back to the atmosphere of that time, the early '50s. We saw American soldiers (then) for the first time in American history who had been made prisoner who not only were refusing to come home, but denouncing their own country."

"We saw Cardinal (Jozsef) Mindszenty and other brave people in Eastern Europe who persisted against torture when they were prisoners of the Nazis, suddenly caving in and appearing before us glassy-eyed or hollow-eyed to confess anything their Communist captors wanted them to confess."

"And it wasn't just the CIA or the armed forces that was engaging in this. A large number of institutions of learning in the United States used their experiments, did not see anything morally wrong with this."



VERNON WALTERS